

Wright State University

CORE Scholar

The Extension Newsletter

University Archives

Winter 2000

The Extension Newsletter, Issue 25, Winter Quarter 2000

Wright State University Retirees Association

Follow this and additional works at: https://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/wsura_newsletter



Part of the [Arts and Humanities Commons](#)

Repository Citation

Wright State University Retirees Association (2000). *The Extension Newsletter, Issue 25, Winter Quarter 2000*. .

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the University Archives at CORE Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Extension Newsletter by an authorized administrator of CORE Scholar. For more information, please contact library-corescholar@wright.edu.

THE EXTENSION

Published Quarterly

Winter Quarter 2000

Issue No. 25

COMING EVENT

- Dec. 1—Open House
- Jan.—No Board meeting or Dutch Treat Lunch
- Feb. 2—Dutch treat lunch
- Feb. 29—Leap Day lunch
- Mar. 1—Dutch treat lunch
- Nov. 9—Dining out
- Mar.—Apr.—ILR classes



WSURA Hosts Bowling Green State Retirees on October 13

The Extension

The Extension is published quarterly for WSU retirees by the Wright State University Retirees Association (WSURA).

Cut off dates for articles:

- Nov. 1 - Winter Quarter
- Feb. 1 - Spring Quarter
- May 1 - Summer Quarter
- Aug. 1 - Fall Quarter

Editor: Elizabeth Harden

Send articles to editor:

The Extension
126 Allyn Hall
Wright State University
Dayton, OH 45435-0001

For additional information
call (937) 775-2777.

WSURA e-mail address
wsura@wright.edu



The Bowling Green—WSURA Retiree Luncheon



Having fun en route to the Grand Victoria Casino in September

Preserving Our Past

Lew Shupe*

The WSURA Historical Preservation Committee is now working actively to compile, collect, and preserve the early history of Wright State as remembered by its retirees. We need your help! Since many of you were among the first employees of the university, what are your recollections of the early years? Do you have interesting memorabilia to share with other retirees or to include in our collection of the university's history, as viewed from retirees' perspectives?

WSURA was a key player in the WSU Founder's Day celebration in 1997 when a photographic retrospec-

tive exhibit of the university's first thirty years was on display during the weekend of festivities. This exhibit proved to be highly successful because of the remembrances of things past, and the visual testimony of how far we have progressed in such a short time. We have been asked to add to this photographic history and also to consider compiling other historical perspectives through video and/or audio histories by retirees; collecting written and printed memorabilia from

our early years; and professionally preserving these collections. To assist us in this work we have established an affiliation with the Department of Special Collections and Archives of the WSU Libraries.

WSURA board members met with **Dawne Dewey**, Head, Special Collections and Archives (SC&A) and **Bessie Karras**, University Records Manager, to discuss ways in which the Association can collaborate with the Special Collections and Archives Department to collect and maintain our historical perspectives. The SC&A department will offer its expertise in (a) identifying different categories of records (record series) that docu-

ment the Association's functions and assign retention periods (retention schedule); (b) appraising the historical value of its records; and (c) assisting WSURA in projects involving collection of information about WSURA's activities (documents, photos, publications, interviews, etc.).

The WSU Records Management Program aims at systematically managing institutional records from their creation to their disposal and at retaining the necessary information to meet the university's legal, financial, administrative, research, and historical needs. It also provides individual and group consultation on various record management issues such as identification of vital records, conversion to alternative storage media, and appraisal of records of enduring historical value. In addition, it offers training opportunities for retirees, faculty, and staff who are interested in record keeping practices. They will assist WSURA in collecting and preserving our own unique history as well as that of the university as a whole.

In return, WSURA can help SC&A with various efforts in collecting the university's history by (a) contributing documents, photos, etc. (b) helping identify and describe photographs and (c) sharing stories and remembrances—and providing input in general to various programs that SC&A is considering.

We strongly encourage you to assist us in our efforts to work closely with Dawne Dewey and Bessie Karras from the Special Collections and Archives Department. We welcome your membership on the committee as well as any suggestions you may have for us. Contact **Lew Shupe** or **Marlene Bireley** at the WSURA office (937) 775-2777. There is a collective memory among the retirees that is important to compile and preserve, so plan to offer your input, and participate with the Historical Preservation Committee.

* Chair, WSURA Historical Presentation Committee



Lew Shupe and Dawne Dewey at the WSU archival exhibit



Bowling Green retiree guests view archival exhibit

President's Column

Marlene Bireley

As we move farther into autumn, I am happy to report that many of the plans that were made over the summer are coming to fruition. All of our Board members are taking their respective tasks very seriously and are committing many hours to the organization. Several Board members volunteered time to help with the Hispanic Heritage Festival held on the quad and the annual Health Fair held in mid-October.

Our first social meeting, the trip to the Grand Victoria, was well received and lots of fun. The trip down and back gave us a chance to talk with old friends and new acquaintances. Even though most of us came back with less cash than we took, a few of our members were pleased with the results of the day's "labors."

Our second activity, the joint meeting with the Bowling Green Retirees Association, attracted about twenty people including eight guests from Bowling Green. We were all fascinated by the Wright Brothers artifacts and the behind-the-scenes stories shared with us by **Dawne Dewey**, Head of Special Collections and Archives, at the Dunbar Library. Our Bowling Green colleagues have invited us to their fall convocation meeting next September. In an interchange of ideas at the meeting, they reported that their meetings usually attract fifty to sixty people—a great goal for us to emulate!

We are now looking forward to our first dining out experience at the Wellington Grille. As of this writing, we are expecting around fifteen people at this activity.

Other major projects are underway and are detailed in articles within this edition of *The Extension*. Each of these tasks will require participation of many members to make them a success. We hope that each of you will find the time to become involved in the one that interests you most.

On the business side of the organization, we are nearing revision of the constitution and we are preparing a membership directory for each of you. Included in the directory will be copies of the old constitution and proposed changes. Each of you is encouraged to send any comments on the changes so that our final draft, which will be presented to the membership at our June meeting, will reflect everyone's best thinking.

This increased activity and the increasing quality and size of *The Extension* has led us to an unpleasant but necessary decision. Since nearly three-fourths of our members are life members, we are rapidly depleting our

funds from collected dues. Our major costs are printing and postage for *The Extension*, the membership directories, and other necessary correspondence to the members. After looking at our needs and collecting information from other Retirees Associations, the Board has recommended that dues be raised to \$10 annually, \$125 for life memberships for retirees who join at age 69 or younger, and \$75 for members 70 and older. In addition, we would encourage anyone who has joined at the current rate to consider a donation to the organization to cover our mailing costs. The final decision on these increases will be made at the March meeting. Please give us your input before that time so that our final decision will reflect your wishes.

Finally, we are continuing to gather money for a WSURA scholarship. The current balance is \$6,635. A donation of \$20 from each of our members would allow us to reach our goal of \$10,000 at the end of this fiscal year. Please consider this as you make your end of the year donations. Donations should be sent to the Wright State Development Office clearly marked for the WSURA Scholarship.

The Board wishes each of you a happy holiday season and hopes to see or hear from each of you sometime during the upcoming year!

From the President Elect

Leone Low

We are continuing to compile interest lists in the areas surveyed last spring and enclosed with the ballot. These areas include dining out, one day trips (including casino visits), formal luncheons, monthly Dutch Treat luncheons, fitness activities, financial seminars, and multi-session learning activities.

If you have not yet submitted an interest survey, or would like to add to the one you have submitted, we welcome your response. And if you are interested in taking a course, remember that seniors get free tuition on a space available basis. The Tai Chi class two years ago was quite successful.

Please call the WSURA office (937) 775-2777; or if you have email, please send your interest list to **Leone Low** at dalylo@aol.com or to **Marlene Bireley** at MKBPHD@aol.com. Your responses will help us greatly with our planning of future activities.

WSURA Winter Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Place	Cost	Contact/Cut-off Date
Dec. 1	Open House*	126M Allyn Hall	None	None
Jan.	No Board meeting or Dutch Treat Luncheon			
Feb. 2	Dutch treat luncheon	Faculty dining room	Individual	None
Feb. 2	Collette Tour mtg**	W169 Student Union	None	WSURA office Feb 1
Feb. 29	Leap Day luncheon***	Cafe Monet DAI	Individual	WSURA /Feb 25
Mar. 1	Dutch treat luncheon	Faculty dining room	Individual	None
Mar.-Apr.	ILR classes****	Kettering Center		See mailer

Additional details:

Open house*—Join us for our annual fun-filled festive holiday occasion at the WSURA office, 126 Allyn (hallway leading from Millett to Allyn) between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Enjoy a snack and chat with other members and administrators.

Collette Tour meeting**—Held at 2 p.m. If you are considering the tour, it is important that you attend the meeting or let us know of your interest. Cut-off dates for signing up for the tour will come soon after this meeting and excess seats will be reassigned to another group. If you can not attend but are interested in the trip, call the WSURA office so that we can get a packet of information to you.

Leap Day luncheon***—At the Dayton Art Institute.

Our winter social event. Lunch cost, based on pre-selected menu options, varies according to selection. Following lunch, a docent-led tour of the Rodin Exhibit is available for those who wish it. The Exhibit cost is \$5 for non-DAI members and is free for members. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.; the tour will begin at 1 p.m. *Please call the WSURA office by February 14* for menu prices and choice of entree. Indicate if you will be having dessert and/or joining the tour of the exhibit. Guests are welcome.

Institute for Learning in Retirement****—See article in this issue.

Announcements

*Our WSURA membership has now exceeded 200 members. WOW! Member mailings will include a copy of the brochure (lists both membership benefits and university/community volunteer opportunities), a copy of the WSURA directory (now in process), and *The Extension* (issued each quarter). Please stay in touch. And **Welcome Aboard!**

*Friends of the WSU Libraries Weekly Calendar for 2000 is now available in limited quantities and retails for \$14.95 plus tax. This unique weekly calendar, featuring 54 historic photographs of Dayton's aviation, industrial, social, and cultural past, should be of considerable interest to retired WSU faculty and staff. **Dr. Gary Barlow**, WSURA

member and current vice president of the Friends organization, values the calendar for drawing attention to the historic materials in the Special Collections and Archives Department. In addition, all proceeds benefit the WSU Libraries. For additional information, call the WSU Libraries at (937) 775-2381.

*Please note a change in the WSURA office email address: wsura@wright.edu.

***Reminders:** the holiday open house (December 1); the Friends of the Library 2000 Weekly Calendar (now available); the change in WSURA dues; the need for scholarship contributions—all of these items are clarified in this issue.

Our First Tour

Marlene Bireley

We have contracted with Collette Tours to bring a new opportunity to our membership. In mid-August, 2000, our group will tour the Canadian Rockies, Vancouver, and Victoria for a first-class eleven day trip. We will fly into Vancouver, then take a tour of that city and Victoria (including Butchart Gardens), among the most beautiful cities on the continent. Then, we will travel by bus to the Rockies National Parks, Lake Louise, the Victoria Glacier, asper, the Columbia Icefields, and Banff. The trip ends at Calgary where we will catch flights home. Accommodations will be in top flight hotels including the famous Chateau Lake Louise and the Banff Springs Hotel. The cost (including airfare from a local airport and eighteen meals) will be \$2,599. Members living out of the Miami Valley can join us from airports around the country. The company will supply us costs from gateway cities as requested.

In addition to providing a wonderful travel opportunity, Collette will refund 10% of the cost of the trip to WSURA. Five per cent of that refund will be used as a fundraiser for the organization and five percent will be returned to the traveler. A brochure giving the exact dates and more detailed information will be ready in about a month. Call 775-2777 to receive a copy. **Todd Bridges**, the local Collette representative, will meet with interested members on Wednesday, February 2, at 2 p.m. in W169B Student Union. Out of town members should request information by calling the office, 775-2777, or e-mailing Marlene Bireley at MKBPHD@aol.com.

Institute for Learning in Retirement

Nick Davis

For several months an ad hoc committee, initially drawn from the Wright State Retirees Association, has been planning an Institute for Learning in Retirement (ILR). An ILR, which is affiliated with the national Elderhostel Institute Network, provides for the educational needs and interests of its members through their own talents. It is part of a growing national movement that is opening campuses across the country to the experience and vitality of older people. The institutes foster and empower retirees to continue learning, to expand their horizons, and to enhance their personal development.

Membership in the ILR will include retirees from the university faculty, staff, and alumni; Wright Patterson Air Force Base; other federal facilities; churches; and senior

citizen groups. The initial courses, offered at the Kettering Center in downtown Dayton, will provide an opportunity to enhance the mission of WSU as a metropolitan university. Efforts are underway to involve groups that focus on both the historical aspects of the Miami Valley and the numerous revitalization projects now active in the area.

Eight courses will be offered in Spring 2000, beginning in early March. They will be scheduled on alternate days and meet once each week. Courses will meet for ninety minutes each session for four to six weeks. Members will pay a single fee and may attend as many courses as they wish. Facilitators may be instructors and/or coordinators (in charge of getting speakers). Participants are expected to be active partners in the learning process and enhance group learning by sharing their own knowledge and expertise. Fees are yet to be determined, but area ILRS charge from \$40-\$75 per cycle.

Once a number of participants has been identified, committees will be established to write by-laws, determine future curricula, and raise funds. Technical support and guidelines are available from the national network for these tasks. The long-range goal of an ILR is to develop a free-standing organization which relies minimally on the host university for support.

OCHER Report

Mary Stonecash**

Health care concerns were the main topic of discussion at the fall OCHER meeting at Ohio State University. **John Mount**, Legislative Chairman, reported that there will be no further legislative action this year because of the expected large turnover next year (over 50%)—the result of mandatory retirements.

He also reported that **Dr. Bonnie Kantor**, keynote speaker at the May conference, is now a consultant to STRS. Mount noted the accomplishments of **Richard Schumaker**, outgoing president of PERS Board. During Schumaker's 39 years on the Board, assets increased from \$40 million to \$52 billion.

Other topics of discussion included plans for OCHER regional meets, and mutual concerns about Ohio's two-year colleges.

**state OCHER president for the current year

It is a pleasure to share with you the charming correspondence from two of our memorable retirees—**Dr. Nick Piediscalzi**, Professor Emeritus of Religion and former chair, WSU Department of Religion (ret 9/88); and **Don Mohr**, WSU's first Director of Intercollegiate Athletics (ret 8/85).

The Out Towners

Elizabeth Harden

Immediately after taking retirement, **Nick** and wife **Sibyl** moved to Santa Barbara, living first in a condominium they had purchased on sabbatical and then in their recently-purchased home. "We were so excited about moving to Santa Barbara we did not anticipate the shock and grief we would experience over leaving WSU, Dayton and our many, many good friends," Nick writes. "It took us about two years to master our grief..." Sibyl reestablished her massage, Cranio-Sacral and Reiki therapy practice in Santa Barbara and is now enjoying a full-time practice.

"During the first two years I taught part time at the University of California, Santa Barbara, co-edited a book and published a few articles and served as an interim associate minister at our church—First Congregational. Next I directed the California Three Rs (Rights, Responsibility and Respect) Project, a community and teacher education program co-sponsored by the California County Superintendents Association and The Freedom Forum. We conducted seminars throughout California for community leaders, teachers and administrators on The First Amendment Religious Liberty and Separation of Church and State Clauses and the importance of upholding and safeguarding every citizen's right to religious liberty (freedom to believe and not to believe). We also offered workshops on how to teach about religions in the public schools according to the guidelines provided by the Supreme Court and the California Department of Education History and Social Science Framework."

Nick notes that his bouts with heart disease and prostate cancer (he is now free of both) introduced him to "holistic" approaches to medicine which include complementary "spiritual" resources for healing. This new interest has led him to conduct research and write a paper—and maybe a book in the future. He and Sibyl offer workshops at local retreat centers on Spiritual Resources for Healing and teach a segment on the topic in the Santa Barbara Multiple Sclerosis Society's Wellness Program.

Travel includes trips to England, Italy, Eastern Europe and Southern Africa (Swaziland, Zimbabwe and South Africa). The Piediscalzi family includes six children and seven grandchildren. In his conclusion, Nick says, "Both Sibyl and I continue to recall with warmth and deep appreciation our twenty-three years in Dayton and at WSU. It was a most rewarding experience to have a part in the building of WSU and to make so many wonderful and deep friendships. Every September we still have a hankering to prepare syllabi for courses!" The Piediscalzis may be reached at 5537 Cappellina Way, Santa Barbara, CA 93111.

When **Don** and wife **Marian** left Wright State in 1981, they spent several winters on the Vineyard before deciding to make it their retirement home. They are happy as permanent residents, "spending winters traveling to visit our extended family in Ohio, Georgia, and Grand Cayman Island" (where son Steve and his wife moved two years ago). Winter travel also includes visits to friends and family in Atlanta and Nashville.

All of Don's work has been volunteer. "For several years," he writes, "I was a member and chairman of the Martha's Vineyard Red Cross. Marian and I have been directors of the M.V. Striped Bass and Bluefish Derby. I served as chairman of their annual fall Derby for several years. I have been a member of the Rod and Gun Club and am still an active member of the M.V. Surfcasters Association, acting as a member of the Courtesy Patrol on the beaches of Chappaquiddic.

We love fishing on the beaches—surf casting and shellfishing—gardening—and enjoy the "easy life." We are blessed with seven children, thirteen grandchildren, and five great grands. Our son Terry who graduated (from) WSU—during which time he was part of the Co-op program at Armco in Middleton—is still employed there. He lives in Fairfield with his wife and three daughters."

Don's health has been "fairly good in the past years with the help of two artificial hips and a knee and numerous back operations to keep me going. It is a great life on M.V. but we do miss our friends at WSU and, of course, being closer to our families. We certainly miss all the intercollegiate and major league sports." The Mohrs may be reached at RFD 1123, Otis Bassett Rd, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568.

Opportunities to Serve

Robert Wagley*

The WSURA Service Committee recently met with **Associate Provost Lillie Howard** to discuss two service opportunities for both staff and faculty retirees. Dr. Howard is interested in enlisting our help for the new *first-year orientation course* beginning Fall 2000. While Fall 2000 seems far away, the class schedules are due around the end of February. Dr. Howard is hoping that we can help with 10 sections of the course.

WSU officials are very concerned about the high rate of student attrition and are taking several steps to improve retention. One step is to have "Learning Communities" to help give the student a feeling of belonging. Part of the Learning Community implementation is to have groups of students take several courses together, including UD 101 (First-year Orientation). The sections of UD 101 would be limited to 25 students and would be "intended major" specific whenever possible. A few of the colleges already have their own UD 101 seminars and it is hoped that the remaining colleges follow suit.

Dr. Howard would like to have 10 retirees serve either as leaders or in-session resource persons in 10 of the UD 101 sections. Since many retirees travel and may not plan to be in town for a full 10-week period, Dr. Howard welcomes "teams" of retirees for some or all of the sections.

The benefits to the students and the university are obvious. However, if we participate, our efforts will be rewarded through personal satisfaction and a university contribution to the WSURA scholarship fund. We must let Dr. Howard know (within a month or so) how many of us will be participating. Please contact the WSURA office (775-2777) or email (wsura@wright.edu) for further information.

The second service opportunity, for both staff and faculty, is serving as social hosts for visiting faculty. WSU presently has 19 visiting faculty, many of whom are foreign. You can help visitors feel welcome by including them in your family's activities.

As a social host, you might share the sights of the Dayton area; invite individuals to cultural/entertainment events; invite them to your religious institution; include them in some of your holiday activities... Having a family or individual play host helps the visitor have a better impression of WSU, the Dayton area, and the U.S. It allows the visitor to see how we live, work, and play. On the other hand, hosting allows you to gain a new perspective on a visitor's country or region, family life, educational opportunities...

To participate (or to find out which colleges/departments have visitors), call **Bob Wagley** (426-8325) or email rwagley@wright.edu.

*Chair, WSURA Service Committee

Treasurer's Report for September, 1999

Tom Keller

As of the end of the month, the account balance in our General Fund Rotary was \$6,935.53. Our expenses totaled \$39.88 and included \$37.83 for telephone, and \$2.05 for computer charges.

The account balance in our agency account was \$2,605.45. Expenses totaled \$12.88, including \$2.60 for copying and \$10.28 for postage. We had membership fee income of \$326.00 and \$230.00 of income for the Argosy Riverboat outing. This income will be offset by an equal expense in a future report.

Our total balance of all funds is \$9,540.98.

As of the end of the month we had 202 members, including 146 life members.

TidBits

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst, for they are sticking to their diets.

Life is an endless struggle full of frustrations and challenges but eventually you find a hairstylist you like.

You're getting old when you get the same sensation from a rocking chair that you once got from a roller coaster.

Perhaps you know why women over fifty don't have babies. They would put them down somewhere and forget where they left them.

One of the life's mysteries is how a two-pound box of candy can make a woman gain five pounds.

Its frustrating when you know all the answers and nobody bothers to ask you the questions.

If you can remain calm, you just don't have all the facts.

I finally got my head together, and my body fell apart.

WSURA Membership Form

☐ New ☐ Renewal

Name: Date of Birth:
Spouse's Name: Date of Birth:
Primary Address: Phone:
City: State: ZIP:
Wright State Department at Retirement: Year of Retirement:
Spouse's Department at Retirement: Year of Retirement:
E Mail Address:

LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

- ☐ \$125.00 (ages 69 and below)
☐ \$75.00 (70 and ABOVE)

ANNUAL DUES:

- ☐ \$10.00
☐ Contribution to WSURA

NOTE: If you and your spouse are retirees from WSU use the age of the younger spouse for determining the Lifetime fee. If you have paid the current annual fee and would like to become a Life Member, subtract the annual fee and remit the difference.

Please fill in the information requested above and send it with your dues (please do not send cash) to:
WSURA, Attn: Treasurer, 067 Allyn Hall, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435



Please clip and mail with your check.

Retirees Association
3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy.
Dayton, Ohio 45435-0001

WRIGHT STATE
UNIVERSITY

